

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, November 16, 2009

Mt. Hope High School Library

Present

**Subcommittee: William OjilDell (Chair), Paul Brule and Karen Lynch
(6:28)**

**School Committee, Administration and Staff: Diana Campbell,
Marjorie McBride, John Saviano, Edward Mara, Melinda Thies, Jane
Correia, Pauline Silva and George Simmons**

**Guests: Lindsay Albernaz and James Wilkinson of Braver
Accounting Firm**

Bill OjilDell called the meeting to order at 6:23 PM.

Approval of Minutes

**MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to approve the minutes to the October
19, 2009 meeting; Bill OjilDell seconded; the motion passed by a vote
of 2 to 0.**

Review of Draft Audit Report

Jane Correia's summary highlighted the fund balance of \$2,119,665, allowing full compliance with Policy DBD. Jane introduced Jim Wilkinson and Lindsay Albernaz.

Jim Wilkinson reviewed highlights of the audit report. In accordance with the terms of the note, the full amount of housing aid, \$158,000, is sitting with the Town; this will continue for the next 8 years. After that, earnings from the Colt Fund will be used to pay the loan; the Town will deposit that in a separate fund. Also, P. 16, reports a Governmental Funds end of year balance of \$5,891,483. P. 19 shows very good results with the lunch fund, unlike many other districts. Jane attributes this to perhaps the sparse use of these funds since she has been with the District; lunch purchases have declined since the mandates for healthy food choices, especially whole wheat. The day care program ended with a slight loss; this mostly likely resulted because state funds have dried up. Student fund accounts reported on P. 21 are itemized by school on Pp. 64 to 66.

Jim mentioned GASB Statement No. 51 (P. 23) will not impact our District, but GASB Statement No. 54 will in 2011. The "Budget and Actual" report, P. 43, shows a very close variance of \$4,976. In summary, the auditors reported no findings related to the financial statements and no findings related to federal awards. There is one minor write-up for outstanding unclaimed checks, which is currently being worked out. There were no questions or concerns from the

Committee; there is no need for the auditors to attend the full Committee meeting.

MOTION: Karen Lynch motioned to forward the audit report to the full Committee for acceptance. Paul Brule seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Jim Wilkinson and Lindsay Albernaz left the meeting.

High School Field Project

The timeline submitted by the architect was reviewed. Marj McBride raised concern with the bid not being ready to go out until June 2010. Paul Brule and George Simmons explained that DEM review and permitting is especially time consuming and unavoidable; this date is quite realistic; however, a rough estimate might be possible by April. Ed Mara will inform Maquire the Committee would like an estimate of the total cost as soon as possible. Diana Campbell asked if the permitting could be piggy-backed with Walter Burke's project; it cannot.

Colt Site Work Fund Management

George reported our architect is working on a different design for the

stairs/ retaining wall; it will have to be presented to HDC.

Mt. Hope Windows

George said the plans are now with our architect; we want the design to be consistent throughout the building. The State has now started raising issues with PCBs, which is in the caulking of our windows; if we get caught up in this, window replacement will be out of our reach financially.

RISE Engineering

Wires for the controls have started to be run in A Building this week. The lighting work will begin tomorrow.

George Simmons left the meeting at 5:50 PM.

Stipends

The Committee reviewed Ed Mara's recommendation for the stipend requests made by the high school (see attached sheet (code: yellow=new stipend; peach=increase amount; blue=delete)). Ed reported that Bob Arsenault confirmed in a meeting with him, that these stipends are strictly for hours put in after school, which are considerable; \$344 by the marching band director, 286 by the assistant, and 120 by the drum line instructor. The \$1500 for the

dance squad advisor is reasonable; she has been volunteering. Jane pointed out that Chris Lambert has been a great addition to performing arts, has done an outstanding job as marching band director, and student participation has increased; the stipend amount is very appropriate.

Karen Lynch is pleased to see increases for the advisors of academic activities. Marj McBride continues to have issues with stipends for the activities of groups that are curriculum-based and taught during the school day. Jane reiterated that the stipends are for all the extra hours put in after school. Bill OjilDell asked if there might be more requests for stipend increases to follow. Ed explained that these are the last ones and they have never been updated. Karen was accepting of increases but was somewhat uncomfortable with the fact that one person could be collecting a number of these stipends. Ed explained that the only duplicate is symphonic band and concert band. Marj asked what the expectations are for Drama; Ed said two performances and accompanying students to the national competition. Only the clubs that compete are compensated.

The Committee was wavering on a direction. Paul Brule suggested making the following adjustments:

„Í Reduce stipend for Dance Squad Advisor from \$1500 to \$1000

„Í Reduce stipend increase for Drama from \$1350 to \$1000

„Í Reduce stipend increase for Color Guard Instructor from \$1000 to \$500

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to approve the request for stipends with the above adjustments and forward the request to the full Committee for approval. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Gatekeeper

Jane explained that Gatekeeper was bought out by CPI and so we must make document changes; a motion giving permission is necessary. Andrew Henneous will review it for the next meeting.

Budget Updates

Jane and Pauline Silva are working with administration in building the 2011 budget.

No issues with 2010 budget.

Marj asked about the Grab and Go Breakfast Program in Central Falls; we already have this.

Adjournment

MOTION: At 6:10 PM Paul Brule motioned to adjourn. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

/ca